IT IS CLAIMED:

1. In a method of treating a disease condition in a mammal responsive to treatment by interferon-tau (IFNτ), an improvement comprising orally administering a therapeutically-effective amount of IFNτ.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein IFNτ is orally-administered at a dosage of between about $1x10^5$ and about $1x10^8$ units per day.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein IFNτ is orally-administered at a dosage of between about $1x10^6$ and about $1x10^7$ units per day.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the orally-administered IFNτ is ovine IFNτ (OvIFNτ).

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said OvIFNτ has the sequence represented as SEQ ID NO:2.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the orally-administered IFNτ is human IFNτ (HuIFNτ).

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said HuIFNτ has the sequence represented as SEQ ID NO:4.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said mammal is a human.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said mammal is a dog.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said disease condition is an immune system disorder.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said disease condition is an autoimmune disorder.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, type I (insulin dependent) diabetes mellitus, lupus erythematosus, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, stomatitis, asthma, allergies and psoriasis

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus and type I diabetes mellitus.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said autoimmune disorder is multiple sclerosis.

15. A method of treating an autoimmune disorder in a subject, comprising

orally administering a therapeutically-effective amount of interferon-tau (IFNτ) to said subject.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus and type I diabetes mellitus.

17. A method of claim 16, wherein said autoimmune disorder is multiple sclerosis.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein IFNτ is orally-administered at a dosage of between about $1x10^5$ and about $1x10^8$ units per day.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein IFNτ is orally-administered at a dosage of between about $1x10^6$ and about $1x10^7$ units per day.